

Offered by Councillor JOHN R. CONNOLLY



## CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

### RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF TRANSGENDER AWARENESS WEEK

- WHEREAS,* November 15, 2009 through November 20, 2009 is Transgender Awareness Week in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts; and,
- WHEREAS,* This annual event was planned by the Massachusetts Transgender Political Coalition in partnership with state and local civil rights organizations; and,
- WHEREAS,* The week is made up of events that educate people about transgender communities and the difficult issues that transgender people face, including high rates of violence and discrimination in housing, education and employment; and,
- WHEREAS,* A recent national survey of transgender people found that ninety-seven percent of those surveyed had experienced harassment or mistreatment at work and forty-seven percent had been fired, not hired, or not promoted; and,
- WHEREAS,* The week will culminate on November 20, 2009 with the observance of International Transgender Day of Remembrance (TDOR) – a day when transgender and allied communities come together to memorialize victims of anti-transgender violence or prejudice; and,
- WHEREAS,* This is an important event for Boston to remember, as TDOR is held in November to honor Rita Hester, who was murdered in Boston on November 28, 1998; and,
- WHEREAS,* It is important to raise awareness as Massachusetts does not have explicit legal protections for transgender people.

*THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,*

That the Boston City Council supports Transgender Awareness Week and encourages all residents of Boston to attend events and learn about the issues faced by our transgender friends, neighbors, colleagues, and community members.

Filed: November 16, 2009